To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander L. H. J. Liber No. 48 in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland:

May 5

The humble Address of the House of Delegates.

May it please your Excellency,

Your kind Representation to the Earl of Loudoun, of the Case of the Inhabitants of this Province, whose Horses and Carriages were taken for his Majesty's Service, by the Army that marched from our Frontier, under the Command of General Braddock, demands our sincerest Thanks; and we cannot but join in Sorrow with your Excellency, that his Lordship has it only in his Power to express his Concern at those poor Peoples Misfortunes, and not to order them the Payment so justly due.

As Orders were issued by General Shirley for satisfying the Owners of such Horses and Carriages as were lost and destroyed, by the unhappy Event of the Expedition in which General Braddock was engaged, we must presume there was a Fund provided sufficient for that Purpose; and that tho' the Time allowed for those poor People to bring in their Accounts was so short, that few of them cou'd receive any Benefit from such Orders, yet certainly the Justice of their Claims remains; and we cannot but entertain Hopes, from the benevolent Disposition of the Earl of Loudoun, that he will use his Endeavours to procure himself a Power of doing an Act, which p. 432 will afford him so much Pleasure as Relieving the Distressed.

It is true that we have prepared a Bill for the Relief of the Inhabitants of this Province, whose Servants have been Enlisted into his Majesty's Forces, in Hopes, nevertheless, that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to order, that whatever Sums this Province may pay on that Account, may be Refunded: But we find Claims against the Public so numerous, and so large, that we are much at a Loss how to make Provision for them all; and we cannot think ourselves excusable in further allowing any that ought, in all Justice and Equity, to be satisfied elsewhere.

Which was Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That Mr. Gray and Mr. Reeder to acquaint his Excellency, That this House hath prepared an Address, to be presented to him, and desires to know when and where he will please to receive it: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, That the Governor was pleased to signify, he would be ready to receive the Address immediately at his House.

Ordered, That Capt. Tolley and Capt. Ward do present the Address to the Governor.

Mr. Govane brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker, a Bill, entituled, An Act to prevent the Exportation or Carrying out of this Province.